

## Today's News - Wednesday, August 12, 2015

- Makovsky pays eloquent tribute to Irving Harper, "one of Modernism's great unsung heroes - a kind, intelligent, and humble designer. I miss him already."
- Anderton talks to Gehry, Lehrer, Hawthorne, and Friends of the Los Angeles River folks re: whether Gehry has the answers for the LA River.
- Hall Kaplan minces no words about what he finds "disturbing" about Gehry diving into the L.A. River's future: "the river already has been scrupulously master planned in a long, arduous process - whatever changes he might wrought to the already approved Master Plan might confuse and splinter its hard won broad support."
- Zeiger looks at the "ripples of praise and dissent" regarding Gehry wading into the L.A. River master plan: while it could threaten the \$1.3 billion approved by the Army Corps of Engineers, it "could be an effective way to harness public-private partnerships," but the project's complexity "will take more than any one figurehead" to make it successful.
- Bamberger parses the four finalists vying to design a \$30 million lakefront bridge and park in Milwaukee, and explains why James Corner Field Operations is "clearly the best of the lot," and "his star-power should make it easier to raise private sector dollars" (he's none too kind to the other three).
- Hume bemoans that "privatization has become the new mantra" as cities sell off the public realm for short-term benefits: "For the rich, the city will be better than ever. The rest will just have to move along."
- Q&A with Gehl re: "making cities healthier and the real meaning of architecture."
- Iyer offers an intriguing explanation for why "Japan has an ambivalent - and unsentimental - relationship with its Modernist architecture"; it is "permanently recyclable, and seeking out the new is in fact the country's oldest tradition" (a fascinating read!).
- Maier talks about his campaign to save Tokyo's Hotel Okura, and comes to the same conclusion as Iyer: "the instinct to preserve modern architecture is not part of the society."
- Hawthorne explains why it's the right time for him to launch a series to re-examine the L.A. freeway that "will ask whether we can approach the task of reimagining our freeways with the same energy, ambition and expertise that we brought to the task of building them in the first place."
- McKeough takes a close look at Piano's new Whitney: "From the outside, it's no jewel. But stepping inside feels like cracking open a geode, as the tough exterior gives way to a welcoming environment of unexpected beauty."
- Rolex taps Kuma to design a building in Dallas "with unique stacked floors that twist" and Japanese-inspired landscaping that "fuses nature and architecture."
- Webb cheers WRNS's Boeddeker Park in San Francisco: "a few simple moves transformed a menace into a magnet" that is "a model urban intervention, shaped by and for the community."
- Ng looks at overlooked side-effects of pro bono architecture, which, "if left unaddressed, may devalue the type, size, quality and integrity of what gets built under the banner of pro bono publico."
- As work dries up in China, "many firms are cutting salaries or letting staff go."
- New Graham Foundation grants go to 49 projects that "chart new territory in the field of architecture" in 22 countries.
- Eye-fuls of the 2015 AL Light & Architecture Design Awards.
- Call for entries: eVolo 2016 Skyscraper Competition.

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Obituary: Irving Harper: 1916-2015: One of Modernism's great unsung heroes has died at 99...designer of Marshmallow Sofa for Herman Miller, as well as the company's logo, and the Ball and Sunburst clocks for Howard Miller...Like many of the Nelson employees I got to meet over the years, Irving was a kind, intelligent, and humble designer, whose contribution to the world of modern design still resonant with us today. I miss him already. By Paul Makovsky [images] - Metropolis Magazine

DnA/Frances Anderton: Does Frank Gehry Have the Answers for the LA River? He is masterplanning the LA River. Why? DnA explores the reaction at the selection as well the political, design and water reclamation stakes with Gehry and others. -- Lewis MacAdams/Friends of the Los Angeles River; Omar Brownson/Los Angeles River Revitalization Corporation; Alex Ward/FoLAR; Mia Lehrer; Christopher Hawthorne - KCRW (Los Angeles)

Frank Gehry shallow dives into the L.A. River: To advocates of the revitalization of the L.A. River...the disclosure that star architect has been presumptuously retained to master plan the 51 mile expanse of the waterway has to be disturbing...the river already has been scrupulously master planned in a long, arduous process...whatever changes Gehry might wrought to the already approved Master Plan might confuse and splinter its hard won broad support... By Sam Hall Kaplan - City Observed

Frank Gehry wades into LA River master plan, stirring up ripples of praise and dissent: Looming is the concern that any change...would lead to losing the \$1.3 billion unanimously approved by the Army Corps of Engineers...LA's best known architect could be an effective way to harness public-private partnerships...but...the complexity of the river corridor will take more than any one figurehead. By Mimi Zeiger -- Olin; Henk Ovink - The Architect's Newspaper

Will Milwaukee Choose High Line's Designer? James Corner Field Operations is one of four finalists to create \$30 million lakefront bridge. It's a great design...His star-power should make it easier to raise private sector dollars...clearly the best of the lot...the only proposal that rises to the occasion. By Tom Bamberger -- La Dallman Architects; Dan Kiley; Marilu Knode; AECOM; GRAEF/Rinka Chung Architecture; Office of James Burnett/Johnsen Schmaling Architects [images] - Urban Milwaukee

Privatized city cuts public adrift: A rush to unload assets owned by us all for short-term benefit hurts the city in the long run: ...the public realm in all its forms is under attack. An alignment of factors...has made the abandonment of these shared goods and services seem desirable. Having allowed the public realm to fall into disrepair, if not disrepute, we would rather sell it off than pay the price of rehabilitation...Privatization has become the new mantra...For the rich, the city will be better than ever. The rest will just have to move along. By Christopher Hume - Toronto Star

Q&A: Jan Gehl on Making Cities Healthier and the Real Meaning of Architecture: Having been instrumental in helping Copenhagen shape its identity as the world's most walkable city, architect and planner discusses the ideas, influences, and concepts that have informed his philosophy and practice. [images] - Metropolis Magazine

History Has No Place: Despite its reverence for tradition, Japan has an ambivalent - and unsentimental - relationship with its Modernist architecture. Why preparing for the future sometimes means destroying the past...nothing looks more out of date than yesterday's version of tomorrow...Modernity is permanently recyclable in Japan, and seeking out the new is in fact the country's oldest tradition. By Pico Iyer -- Yoshiro Taniguchi; Hideo Kosaka; Mitsuo Katayama; Kenzo Tange; Kisho Kurokawa; Togo Murano; Frank Lloyd Wright [images] - New York Times T Magazine

Saving Tokyo's Hotel Okura: Tomas Maier, Bottega Veneta's creative director...talks about his campaign to save the renowned hotel - and other Japanese architectural treasures that could be in danger...they may try to preserve the lobby...I suppose that's already good news...There is no landmarking for modern architecture in Japan...the instinct to preserve modern architecture is not part of the society. -- Yoshiro Taniguchi; Hideo Kosaka; Shiko Munakata; Kenkichi Tomimoto; Yoshio Taniguchi [images] - Wall Street Journal

Why the time is right to re-examine the L.A. freeway: The relationship between Southern Californians and our freeways is broken...no longer represent the region's larger ambition...I'll be writing several more articles...series will ask whether we can approach the task of reimagining our freeways with the same energy, ambition and expertise that we brought to the task of

[building them in the first place. By Christopher Hawthorne- Los Angeles Times](#)

[A Closer Look: Renzo Piano's Whitney Museum in New York: The building's brutish exterior conceals surprisingly gracious interiors...From the outside, it's no jewel...But stepping inside feels like cracking open a geode, as the tough exterior gives way to a welcoming environment of unexpected beauty. By Tim McKeough \[images\]- Azure magazine \(Canada\)](#)

[Construction kicks off on Uptown Dallas project for Rolex: ...seven-story building...with unique stacked floors that twist..."fuses nature and architecture." -- Kengo Kuma & Associates; Sadafumi Uchiyama \[image\]- Dallas Morning News](#)

[Park Reform: San Francisco's Boeddeker Park is a green refuge: As with Bryant Park in midtown Manhattan, a few simple moves transformed a menace into a magnet...a model urban intervention, shaped by and for the community... By Michael Webb -- Trust for Public Land; WRNS Studio \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[The side-effects of pro bono architecture: Here are several overlooked side-effects which, if left unaddressed, may devalue the type, size, quality and integrity of what gets built under the banner of pro bono publico. By Amelyn Ng- Australian Design Review](#)

[Architecture Firms in China Dial Back: ...work is drying up...many firms are cutting salaries or letting staff go...as local governments cut back on urban projects and property developers halt projects and delay payments. -- Aedas; Teddy Hu; Bear-ID Sustainable Urban Planners and Architects- Wall Street Journal](#)

[David Adjaye exhibition, Ukrainian urban planners among winners of new Graham Foundation grants: ...will award \\$496,500 to 49 projects that "chart new territory in the field of architecture." The award recipients were plucked from a pool of over 200 submissions representing 22 countries. \[images\]- The Architect's Newspaper](#)

[2015 AL Light & Architecture Design Awards: ...12 winning projects...succeed in creating a unique moment of transition that helps us to navigate through our everyday activities. -- Speirs + Major; Domingo Gonzalez Associates; Tillotson Design Associates; Flux Studio; Anne Kale Associates; SmithGroupJJR; Focus Lighting; Grand Sight Design International; MCLA/Leo A Daly; BDP; Auerbach Glasow French \[images, videos\]- Architectural Lighting magazine](#)

[Call for entries: eVolo 2016 Skyscraper Competition: earlybrid registration \(save money!\): November 17 \(late registration deadline: January 19; submissions due January 26, 2016- eVolo Magazine](#)

[Nuts + Bolts #12: Hiring Interns? What You Need to Know: Architecture and engineering firms engaging unpaid interns can avoid liability in connection with their internship programs by meeting six specific requirements. By John Balitis- ArchNewsNow.com](#)



[7 Out-of-the-Box Factories: Some disrupt the expected factory architecture typology through playful and unexpected materials while others challenge conventional forms. -- SANAA; Zaha Hadid Architects; Peter Stutchbury; Foster + Partners; Renzo Piano Building Workshop; Santiago Calatrava; Richard Rogers and Partners \(Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners\) \[images\]](#)

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